

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Openings for transmitting ultraviolet rays are formed in a reticle stage (7) and a reticle surface plate (10) for supporting the reticle stage. A chuck
5 groove (15) is formed in a reticle chuck surface (14) of a reticle holder (13). An opening for transmitting ultraviolet rays is also formed in the holder (13). An enclosure (17) for surrounding the ultraviolet path from the lower end of the stage (7) toward the vicinity
10 of the reticle surface plate (10) is attached to the opening of the reticle stage (7). A supply port (16) for supplying purge gas made of inert gas into a space defined by a reticle (6), the stage (7), the enclosure (17), the surface plate (10), and a projection optical
15 system (19) is formed.